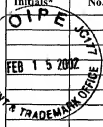


Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO		Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	09/839,173
		Confirmation Number	4871
		Filing Date	April 23, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Yoshihito ASAO
		Art Unit	2834
		Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	Q63614

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
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		US 6,114,783		09/05/00	Y. Asao
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>4</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		Germany	GB-2 068 479		08/12/81		

## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>4</sup>
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, vol. 10, no. 213, July 25, 1986	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, vol. 17, no. 307, June 11, 1993	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, no. 11, December 26, 1995	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.